



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
550 MAIN STREET  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**EDDIE A. PEREZ**  
Mayor

**Telephone: (860) 543-8500**  
**Fax: (860) 722-6606**

**Sarah Barr, Director of Communications**

**MAYOR PEREZ ANNOUNCES  
ALMOST \$1 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANT MONEY  
TO HARTFORD'S HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE**

(September 23, 2005)--- Hartford Mayor Perez is pleased to announce a major step forward in providing access to healthcare to the city's 27,000 uninsured and underinsured men, women, and children. A \$980,000 federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration will fund the Mayor's Healthy Communities Initiative, which was announced in May. The target date for this new phase to begin is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mayor Perez says, "It was a very competitive process to get this grant money. It is a huge sum of money and a huge investment in the health of Hartford." The Mayor went on to say, "There are too many families who are unable to see a doctor because they have to make the financial choice between medicine and food. Thanks to this grant, this is about to change."

Because of this federal funding, 24 percent of the city's population will now have a coordinated and bilingual effort to help families gain access to a primary care provider. The program will also formulate a single medical information system--- allowing patients seeking care to be identified and be enrolled in and tracked by a universal system.

Mayor Perez says, "I want Hartford to be a city where even those without health coverage can get basic healthcare."

U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) was thanked for being instrumental on the federal level. Mayor Perez also acknowledged the organizations that are partners in this initiative. They include: Community Health Services, Inc., Charter Oak Community Health Center, The Hispanic Health Council, Hartford Hospital, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Aetna Foundation, Connecticut Health Foundation, and the City's Department of Health and Human Services. Through the implementation of this initiative, significant strides can be made to secure appropriate health care for Hartford residents.